

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicants herewith submit replacement drawings for Figs. 1A-1C.

By this response, elements numbers have been amended as indicated in the attached annotated sheet showing changes made.

Attachments: Replacement sheet for Figs. 1A-1C

Annotated sheet showing changes made to Figs. 1A-1C

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated February 8, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this response, replacement drawings are hereby submitted; amendments to the specification are hereby submitted; claim 1 is hereby amended; and claim 27 is hereby added. Claims 11-26 are withdrawn from consideration. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 27 are currently pending for examination. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 1 is objected to because of informalities. The drawings are objected to because important structural features are not numbered. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter "AAPA").

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 1 is moot in light of the amendment to claim 1 submitted herewith.

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings is moot in light of the replacement drawings for Figs. 1A-1C submitted herewith.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-9 and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-9 are allowable at least in that each of these claims recite a combination of elements, including, for example, "a second insulating layer on the third conductive layer, the second insulating layer having a first contact hole exposing a portion of the third conductive layer, and a second contact hole exposing the portion of the first conductive layer exposed by the first insulating layer" and "a sixth conductive layer between and in contact with both the exposed portion of the third conductive layer and the fourth conductive layer, and between and in contact with both the first conductive layer and the fifth conductive layer, wherein the sixth conductive layer has substantially the same shape of the first contact hole and the second contact hole, respectively". Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-9.

Additionally, new claim 27 is allowable at least by virtue of the fact that it depends from claim 1, which is allowable.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

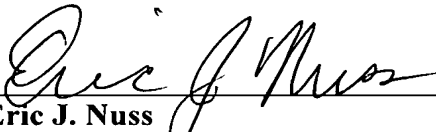
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 8, 2007

By


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ANNOTATED SHEET
U.S. APPLICATION NO. 09/788,420

FIG. 1A
CONVENTIONAL ART

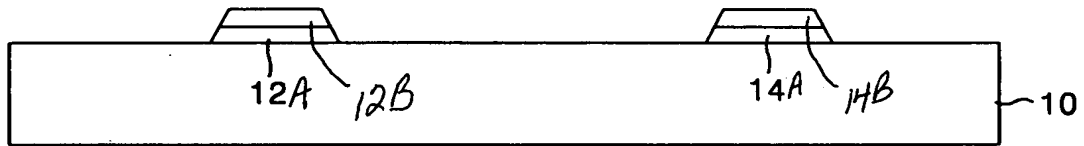


FIG. 1B
CONVENTIONAL ART

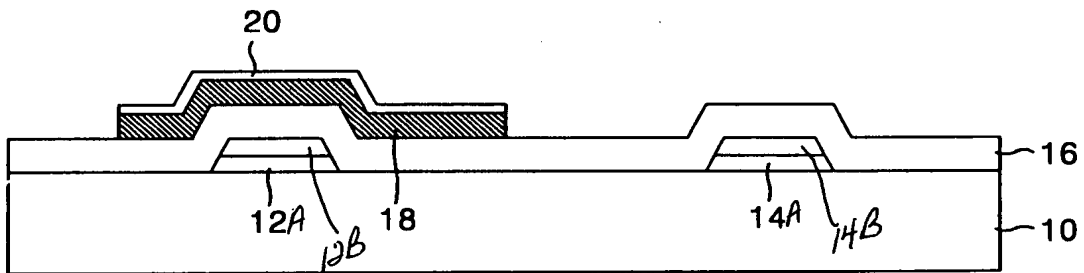


FIG. 1C
CONVENTIONAL ART

